

# GREENBELT

## News Review

Volume 63, Number 5

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

Thursday, December 30, 1999

### Beat The Rush

Please give us your copy on Mondays or at least by noon on Tuesdays. We are trying not to get swamped Tuesday nights.

## Greenbelt New Year 2000 Gala Will Start Off with Fireworks

by Patti Brothers

There are only a few days left to solidify those last-minute New Year's Eve plans. Those who haven't decided yet how to bring in the new millennium are invited to join friends and neighbors at Greenbelt New Year 2000, the best party in town.

The evening will start off with the best thing since the 4th of July fireworks display on Braden Field beginning at 6:15p.m.

Activities will then move indoors at five different locations. The Community Center will host the great rhythm and sounds of Trinidad and Tobago (you'll think you're in the islands.) Kaydee Puppets will delight the audience with "let your imagination take you away" puppet shows, to be followed by Tim Livengood with his wonderful storytelling.

Bridges to Bliss will entertain the entire family with their fun and whimsical songs. Dave Schuman will demonstrate his great juggling skills. The children's craft rooms will be open once again for a night of creativity.

For those who feel like

dancing, Blackberry will play their "toe-tapping, grab yourself a partner" cajun music starting with a dance lesson, and John Hill will provide partygoers with a full night of great music from his acoustic guitar and wonderful voice. Keep an eye out for a clown and a balloon sculpturist roaming the halls.

The Futures & Fortunes Gift Shop and the artist studios will also be open for creative and shopping pleasures. Guy 'N Ties will provide great music while participants shop and take part in the activities planned by the artists.

DC Motors will begin the final celebration and ring in the New Year in fine style with nonstop sounds spanning the last four decades!

### Other Venues

The Youth Center will have lots of "get involved" activities for everyone — sumo wrestling, an obstacle course and a karaoke DJ who will provide music all night long for listening as well as for singing.

Dave Schuman will move from the Community Center to the Youth Center, giving up his juggling skills to conduct a swing dance lesson, followed by

a dance. The Youth Center will also host always-popular youth bingo. There will be plenty of food to eat — pizza, hot dogs, chips, sodas and much more.

The Arts Center will be presenting a delightful children's play, "The Hippo Who Wanted to be a Ballerina" (two performances), starring children but for audiences of all ages. The progressive rock band, Peroxide, will finish out the evening in the Arts Center with their hot, edgy sounds.

The Theatre will host Eric Henning, magician extraordinaire, to dazzle the audience with his wonderful illusions, in three shows. The New Deal Cafe will host Fire Dean and Big Black Nun and will provide delicious food all night long, in both its new location and the Community Center.

Reasonably priced tickets are still available at the Community Center. Children under five are free. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. Call 301-397-2208 or check out the website -www.ci.greenbelt.md.us/ new year for further information.

Don't miss Greenbelt New Year 2000 - there is still time to partake of the festivities!

### The Old Curmudgeon



"You can rest assured the News Review is Y2K compliant..."

Thursday, December 16, 1999

## Ten Top Stories of 1999

by News Review Staff Writers, Virginia Beauchamp, Altoria Bell Ross, James Giese, Betsy Likowski, Diane Oberg and Mary Lou Williamson

### Annexation of Parkside

On March 9, Greenbelt residents voted by referendum against a petition to annex Parkside, a 31-home subdivision off Good Luck Road on the south side of Greenbelt Park. Pros and cons were debated before council and in letters to the editor with proponents saying that Parkside residents wish to be part of Greenbelt, benefit from city services, and bring more tax revenues to the city than the cost of services to be provided. Opponents cited the subdivision's distance from other sections of the city and the inconvenience and extra time required to provide service to the area. Opponents successfully obtained signatures of more than 20 percent of the city's registered voters on petitions to bring the issue to referendum.

### Renovation of Roosevelt Center

After several years' study of various landscape design plans for Roosevelt Center, the Greenbelt City Council chose one incorporating some of the 1937 features. Bradford pears came down, old red Bowmanite pavers came up, old soil was replaced. Council added to the project's cost by agreeing to restore the deteriorated mother and child statue, buy a movie theater marquee and install security cameras. To offset costs, council slashed \$26,000 by having Public Works tackle both demolition and landscaping tasks and raised \$10,000 through the "sale" of new benches, Zelkova trees and the London plane trees planted earlier along Centerway.

By early summer most work on Roosevelt Center was completed with tables and chairs placed within four squares set off by low evergreen hedges. On October 24 the city hosted a grand rededication of a renewed Roosevelt Center.

### Drought

A drought of historic proportions hit the state this year. Governor Parris Glendening imposed mandatory water restrictions in August in response to the drought. Watering outdoors was limited to watering by hand.

Few city plantings died, a number of trees around the city did. The drought was broken when the remnants of hurricanes Dennis and Floyd dumped rain on the region in September. The area experienced a record number of "code red" poor air quality days this summer.

### Metro Development

Public participation in the two-year long Sectional Map Amendment planning process of proposed development near the Greenbelt

See TEN TOP, page 5

## MPO Robert Musterman Is Honored As Police Officer of the Year

by Barry Bernstein

The City of Greenbelt Police Department honored Master Patrol Officer (MPO) Robert F. Musterman as the 1999 police officer of the year and gave recognition to several other officers at the annual Law Officers Awards Banquet held on Friday, October 22 at American Legion Post #136.

Officer Musterman came to work for the Greenbelt Police Department as a police cadet in 1984; performed the duties of a patrol officer from 1985 to 1990; and from 1990 through 1998, served as a canine handler.

In 1998, Musterman assumed the role of supervisor of the canine unit and received the Triple Crown Award under the U.S. Canine Association's Region Three certification trial. Musterman proved proficient in the areas of dog obedience, patrol tracking, apprehension techniques, agility drills, and narcotics detection skills, according to a Prince George's County Council proclamation of the award.

The banquet has been held for over a decade under the sponsorship of American Legion Post #136. Roughly 130 people attended the banquet. Ceremonies included a dinner; recital of the "Pledge of Alle-

giance"; the National Anthem sung by Heather Byers, wife of Greenbelt police officer Barry Byers; an opening prayer by Post Chaplain Sam Hofberg; and several speakers who gave their comments on the ceremony.

"The Police Officer of the Year Award is an important Legion and Americanism program for the promotion of public safety with recognition of those who provide that valuable service, Ric Santos, chairman of the Policeman of the Year banquet, said. It is our honor and pleasure that the American Legion and the Greenbelt Police Department are joined together for the 11th Annual Police Officer of the Year Program to acknowledge and to recognize an outstanding officer," Santos said.

Also in attendance at the banquet were representatives from the City of Greenbelt, Prince George's County government, Maryland state government, and the Commanders of the Maryland American Legion.

"It was a lovely evening. The city of Greenbelt and the American Legion should be commended for holding this annual event. It provides the community an opportunity to honor our law enforcement officers," Mary Conroy, Maryland House

of Delegates, said.

"Officer Musterman grew up in Bowie in a very fine family. I am glad he is serving his community as a police officer," said Conroy, who also lives in Bowie.

### Others Honored

Greenbelt Police Chief James Craze also honored two other police officers at the banquet, PFC Gordon Pracht and PFC Mark Sagan for their outstanding service to the community.

Officer Pracht became a police officer in July of 1996 after spending a year in the police department's communication section.

"As I review his personnel file in preparation for this event, I took note of a half-dozen commendations from the public exemplifying these attributes," Chief Craze said.

Officer Mark Sagan has been with the Department for nearly nine years and is currently assigned to the special activities section as a street crimes officer.

"I would be remiss if comment is not made on Mark's personality....Mark is successful in dealing with people due, at least in part, to his sense of humor...that is our Mark, the one to bring a smile," Chief Craze said.

### What Goes On

Fri., Dec. 31 New Year's Eve. City offices closed.

6 p.m. - 1 a.m. Greenbelt New Year 2000.

Mon., Jan. 3, 7 p.m. Recycling Committee, Community Center

7:30 p.m. Assisted Living Task Force, Community Center

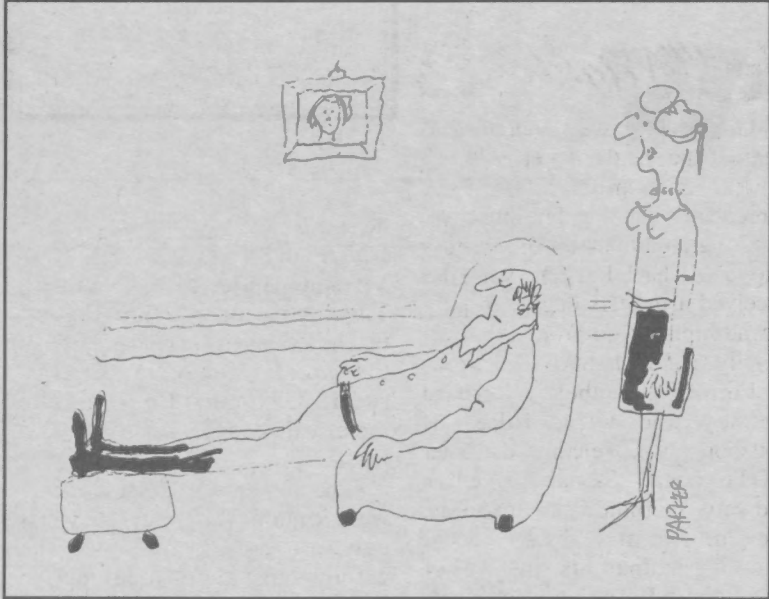
Wed., Jan. 5, 7:30 p.m. Advisory Planning Board, Community Center



## Our Favorites

(Two others appear elsewhere in this issue.)

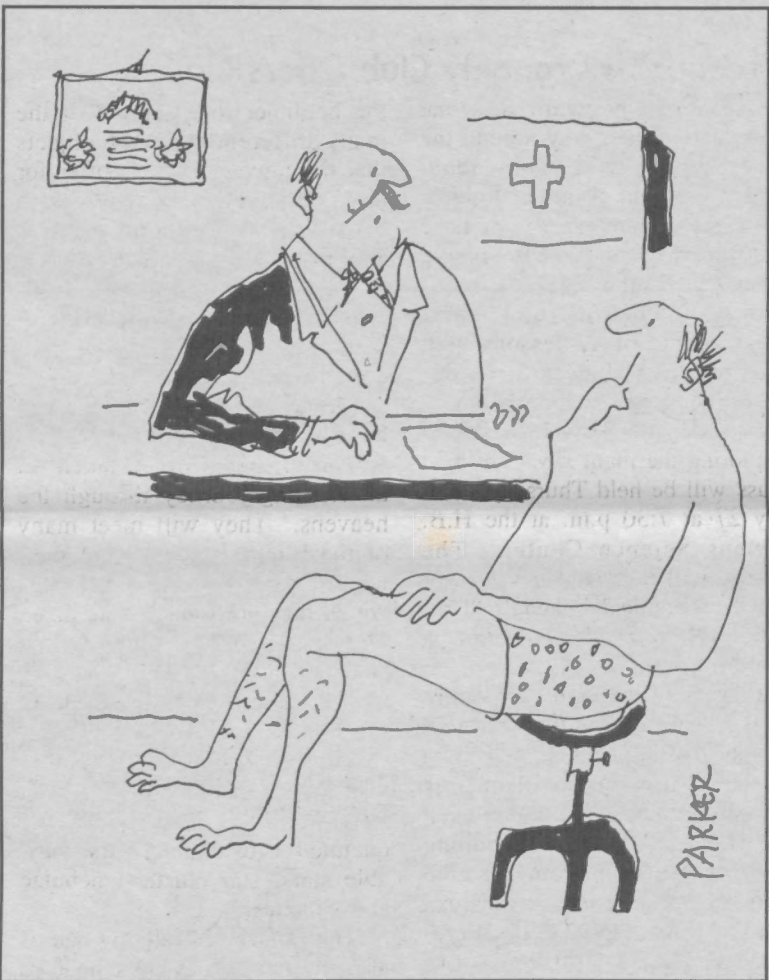
### The Old Curmudgeon



"You've spent enough years in that chair to be a nominated as a historic site."

-Thursday, April 29, 1999

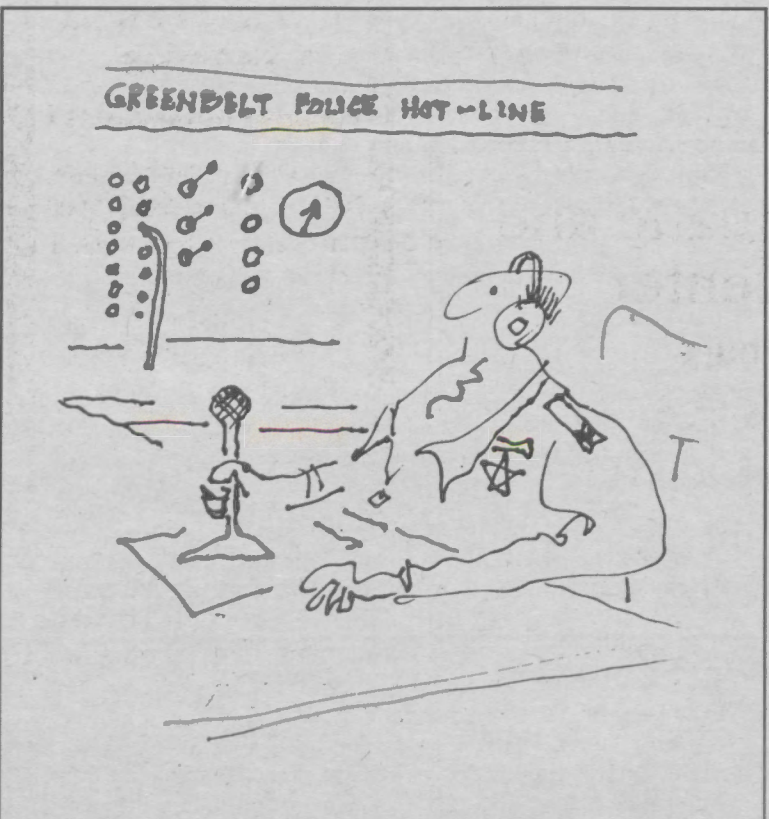
### The Old Curmudgeon



"I turned 80 yesterday...I want to know if I'm Y2K compatible!"

-Thursday, November 18, 1999

### The Old Curmudgeon



Calling all bicycles...Calling all bicycles...

-Thursday, November 4, 1999

### Kubrick Festival Scores Hits

by Dennis Jelalian

The Old Greenbelt Theatre is showing the Stanley Kubrick Festival this week. The featured films are "Lolita," "Full Metal Jacket," and "Clockwork Orange."

"Lolita" is the story of a middle-aged professor (James Mason) who falls in love with his landlady's (Shelly Winters) schoolgirl daughter (Sue Lyons). The relationship would be comic if it weren't so painful to watch. The landlady is a loud hustler and the good professor marries her in spite of the fact that he still loves the daughter. Nothing the professor does earns him any credit with the girl. Peter Sellers has what might be called a cameo in the movie. He plays several roles in the movie, all of them tricksters. The professor finds out that he's been tricked and shoots him. Poor professor. He's shot the wrong man. The girl has married another man. The movie gets two stars.

"Full Metal Jacket" is a tough, hard-nosed look at Marine boot camp and the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. The episode in boot camp is long and grueling like real boot camp. The drill sergeant is hard on his men as a drill sergeant should be, but, as usual, there's a fat boy who can't do all the drill sergeant demands roughly. The boy retaliates roughly. The language the drill sergeant uses is realistic, if obscene.

The second half of "Full Metal Jacket" deals with Vietnam, from the perspective of one of the men who's been assigned as a reporter to Stars and Stripes. It's an interesting perspective. As a reporter, he gets to move around a good bit, allowing us to see a lot of the horror of the war. He has a dispute with his commanding officer. The officer assigns him to a combat patrol, in which he gets lost and runs into sniper fire. It's a harrowing, excruciating sequence. The movie gets three stars.

The last film is "Clockwork Orange." It's about a punk British thief and his gang. There's plenty of nudity, obscenity, rape, and violence as we follow along. Eventually, he gets caught, sentenced, and jailed. In his eagerness to get out of jail, he volunteers for an experimental program which offers freedom, provided that he goes through an experimental psychological conditioning program. The thief expects that he'll get out of jail with minimal hardship. Of course, he's in for several rude shocks. The film is a hard-hitting satire. It gets three stars.

### Greenbelt CARES

Teresa Smithson contacted Cecilia Cardano, Crisis Intervention Counselor at Greenbelt Elementary School, to discuss in-school group counseling for students. Cardano expressed an interest in CARES assisting with groups addressing anger management skills. Smithson and Cardano will meet on January 3, 2000 to begin planning for the groups.

### The Old Curmudgeon



"We don't have to worry about Y2K...We don't own a computer...Why did the clock stop?"

### Federal Pay Raise Amounts to 4.94%

Congressman Steny Hoyer recently announced that federal employees in the Baltimore-Washington area will receive a 4.94% pay raise, effective January 1. The Clinton Administration released the figures December 21 detailing the locality pay adjustment. This makes the Fiscal Year 2000 pay raise the largest for federal employees in this area since 1981.

Hoyer has been working since February to ensure that federal employees would receive a pay raise equal to the military personnel pay raise. The Defense Authorization and Appropriations bills passed by both houses of Congress provide for the 4.8% pay raise for military personnel, so Hoyer and Senator Ted Steven

### NARFE Meeting

The next meeting of NARFE Chapter 2146 takes place at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 19 at the New Carrollton Municipal Center on Princess Garden Parkway.

The Washington Regional Transplant Consortium will provide a speaker to advise members on organ transplants, their organizational efforts and public awareness. The public is invited.

(R-Alaska) agreed to include a 4.8% federal employee raise in the Treasury Postal Service and General Government Appropriations Conference Report. It mandated the Clinton Administration to enact a 4.8% pay raise for federal employees, which will become effective on the first of the year.

## Greenbelt News Review

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Diane Oberg, president; James Giese, vice president; Kathleen Gallagher, treasurer; Eileen Farnham, secretary; and Altoria Bell Ross.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center 15 Crescent Road during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$32/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., 8 - 10 p.m., Tuesday 8 - 10 p.m.



## At the Library

### Children's Programs

Tuesday, January 4, at 7 p.m., P.J. Storytime for ages 4 - 6.

Thursday, January 6, 10:15 a.m., Drop-In Storytime for ages 3 - 5.

Toddler Time for two-year-olds and parent or caregiver at 11:15 a.m.

### Adult Programs

Saturday, January 8, at 10:30 a.m., Poetry Plus, a reading and discussion group.

## Genealogical Group Meets January 5

The Prince George's Genealogical Society will meet Wednesday, January 5, at 7 p.m. in the Greenbelt Library, 11 Crescent Road. The meeting is open to the public and there is no charge.

This program, presented by the members, will be "Show and Tell." Members wishing to participate should call Program Chair Diana Hale.

## Greenway "Swap Shop" Open for Exchanges

by Nelda Young

December 26 through 29 the Greenway Center Gift Swap Shop, located in a truck trailer in the shopping center parking lot, accepted new and unused merchandise still in its original packaging. One gift exchange per person was allowed per day.

Their ad read, "Bring your weird, wacky and wrong gifts, swap 'em for someone else's unlikely, unsuitable and underappreciated ones." The item had to have a minimum retail value of \$10. No receipts, no price tags were required. In exchange the donor could choose any previously donated item or a \$10 gift certificate redeemable at any shop in Greenway Center.

Linda Dreyer, marketing manager at Combined Properties, said, "We consider the Swap Shop a service to the community." 1998 was their kick-off year at Greenbrier Town Center in Chantilly, Virginia. On the first day in 1998, 24 customers made donations, after four days of operation a total of 2,500 people showed up and 1,500 gifts had been exchanged. On the first day in 1999, the Greenway Swap Shop was on track to match Chantilly's 1998 numbers.

What items were donated at Greenbelt on the first day? Charge N Start; Joan Collins' book "Health, Youth and Happiness"; New World Order Collectible, an Alien Metal Candle Holder; a Last Supper wall clock that chimes Hallelujah on the hour; a sports kit containing binoculars; The Fighting Nun, a hand puppet; and more. All items remaining at the close of business on the fourth and last day were donated to Goodwill Industries. Dreyer said the Swap Shop expects to be back at the Greenway Center in 2000.

## 10/20 Mile Runs Sat., January 8

The 35th annual 10/20 mile running races will be held on Saturday, January 8, at 10 a.m. Register at the Greenbelt Youth Center starting at 9 a.m. The races are open to runners of all ages and abilities provided that adequate training has been done. There is a fee. Age group awards will be given in each race and each entrant will receive a commemorative patch. Refreshments after the race will be provided in the Youth Center. Call Joe Broderick at 301-661-5019 for additional information or call the D.C. Roadrunner's Club hot line at 703-241-0395.

## Tutoring Resumes At SHL Rec Center

With the end of the school winter break, free tutoring will start again at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center for the remainder of the school year as follows:

The Greenbelt Moving Ahead program (GMA) will resume on Saturday, January 8, from 10 a.m. to noon for middle and high school students.

The free tutoring and homework club will start Wednesday, January 5, from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Capable tutors are available to help. For more information call Janet Goldberg after 2:30 p.m., at 301-397-2212.

The Fourth Annual Career Fair will be held on March 6 at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. More detailed information about the Fair will follow later.

## City Notes

The streets crew began using the new street sweeper to clean the streets throughout the city. They also received delivery of 100 tons of road salt and installed salt spreaders to prepare for the possibility of inclement weather.

The parks crew repaired and readied snow equipment for the coming season. They continued collecting leaves around the city and hauled stockpiled leaves to College Park for composting. They continued playground inspections and secured the batting cage at the Little League Field after vandalism.

The horticulture crew installed trees and shrubs at Hunting Ridge and repaired damage to the median at Breezewood Drive and Springhill Lane.

The building maintenance crew met with the contractor to continue installation of security cameras at Roosevelt Center. They also continued work on HVAC at the Police Station.

# Community Events

## Recreation Review

Greenbelt New Year 2000 has a few tickets left for purchase. Finish '99 and celebrate the start of the new year with a non-alcoholic celebration for all ages. The event runs from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., December 31 to January 1. Call 301-397-2208 for more details.

Get the new year off to a healthy start with a hearty morning swim - the Annual Resolution Mile Swim at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center. Pre-registration is required. Call 301-397-2204 for more information.

On Friday, December 31, the Youth Center and the Springhill Lake Recreation Center will be open from noon to 5 p.m. The Aquatic and Fitness Center will be open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Community Center will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On Saturday, January 1, the Youth Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center will be open from noon to 10 p.m. The Aquatic and Fitness Center will be open from noon to 8 p.m. The Community Center will be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

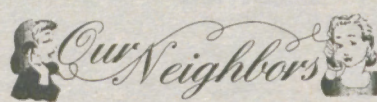
## Mrs. Greenbelt Is Sought for Pageant

The Mrs. Maryland International 2000 pageant is seeking Mrs. Greenbelt 2000 to compete in the Mrs. Maryland International pageant.

Mrs. Greenbelt International 2000 will compete for the title of Mrs. Maryland International 2000. The pageant is scheduled for April 2000 to be held at the Chesapeake College Performing Arts Center and is sponsored by the Comfort Inn at the Kent Narrows.

The Mrs. Maryland International pageant celebrates the accomplishments of married women through marriage, career, family and community service. Applicants must be between ages of 23 and 56, married a year by August 2000, and a resident of Maryland for six months. The contestants at the state pageant are judged on interview, physical fitness, evening gown, and platform.

For further information call State Director Sherry Benson at 410-643-8306.



Greenbelters were saddened to hear of the death of Leroy "Lee" Clark, a member of one of Greenbelt's pioneer families.

Congratulations to Greenbelter Lloyd Michael Puckett, who has received a masters degree in public administration from the University of Oklahoma.

Former Greenbelter Bernard Penney and wife, Julie, of Pittsboro, NC, welcome daughter Skylar Olga. Skylar arrived in the early morning Christmas Day, weighing in at 8 lbs., 12.5 oz. Proud grandparents are Walter and Leonie Penney of Northway. Her nine cousins (children of former Greenbelters Olga Penney Garber, Leesburg, VA, and Walt Penney, Takoma Park) can't wait for her to join them in their games.

## Greenbelt Astronomy Club Offers Class

Readers who want to learn how to find their way around the night sky or are curious about what the bright points of light in the night sky are called now have a chance to find out. Beginning January 27, the Greenbelt Astronomy Club will offer a six-class course of 12 lessons with two practical laboratories designed specifically for the beginner looking for the very basics of exploring the night sky. The first class will be held Thursday January 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the H.B. Owens Science Center. The course will take students through the Astronomical League's "Universe Sampler" program, a proven course of instruction on the basics of the night sky. There will be no tuition fee for this course, but students will need to purchase a program manual, a bright star map and a red filtered flashlight. Assistance obtaining these is available from the club secretary. Interested persons can contact John Settle, club secretary, at 301-277-4041 before January 2 or contact the secretary through the club website at <http://theawwww.qsfc.nasa.gov/docs/outreach/gac/GAC.html>.

The Universe Sampler observing program is a unique program designed for the beginning observer. It is designed to expose

## Folk Dance Party Kicks Off Year 2000

The Greenbelt Folk Dancers will host a free dance party to kick off the millennium. The event will take place at the Greenbelt Youth Center on Friday, January 7, 2000 starting at 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

The dance party promises to be great fun, a good way to socialize and an enjoyable way to get some mild aerobic activity. The instructor, Roland Forbes, teaches dances from all parts of the world. Greek, Balkan, Israeli, German, English and American dances are often featured.

The Greenbelt Folk Dancers were organized about 20 years ago; during the last four the group has been meeting in Greenbelt.

Although partners are not necessary, comfortable shoes are important. For further information call the Greenbelt Recreation Department, 301-397-2208.

the beginner to a sample of the many different types of objects that the universe has to offer for observing enjoyment and to learn his or her way around the sky. The program also teaches some of the basics of astronomy. It offers an alternate naked-eye list of deep sky objects for those who are interested in astronomy but shy away because they do not have a telescope or binoculars.

Participants will be taken on an exciting journey through the heavens. They will meet many of the brightest stars, learn their names and the constellations in which they are found. The moon and some of the planets that share the solar system will be visited as well as at least one of the comets that leave the outer reaches of the solar system to visit the neighborhood of the sun. Participants will become acquainted with double stars, variable stars, star clusters, nebulae and galaxies.

The January 27 starting date is also the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Greenbelt Astronomy Club.

## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

### Week of December 31

Fri. Stanley Kubrick Festival  
Full Metal Jacket 5:00@\$4.00

Sat. Stanley Kubrick Festival  
Clockwork Orange  
4:30@\$4.00

Lolita 7:00@\$4.00

Full Metal Jacket 9:30@\$4.00

Sun. Stanley Kubrick Festival  
Lolita 4:15@\$4.00

Clockwork Orange  
7:15@\$4.00

Mon. Stanley Kubrick Festival

Full Metal Jacket 7:30@\$4.00

Tues. Stanley Kubrick Festival

Clockwork Orange  
7:30@\$4.00

301-474-9744

301-474-9745

[www.pgtheatres.com](http://www.pgtheatres.com)

## Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center



### Holiday Hours

### New Year's Eve

Friday, December 31, 1999

6am-6pm

### New Year's Day

Saturday, January 1, 2000

12pm-8pm

Call 301-397-2204

for more information



From your community credit union

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union  
301-474-5900



## OBITUARY

### Joseph Leroy Clark

Joseph Leroy "Lee" Clark, 76, died on Sunday, December 26. He was a member of one of Greenbelt's pioneer families.

Born in Oklahoma City, he moved to Greenbelt with his family in 1938. His father, who had been a lawyer, gave it up to work with his hands in woodworking. He became a blacksmith and got a job at the Beltsville farms (now BARC). His mother was one of the first employees of the Greenbelt Post Office.

His friend, Greenbelt Pioneer Donnie Wolfe, remembers him as the best all-around athlete in Greenbelt. He was manager of the Greenbelt Shamrocks baseball team.

Growing up in Greenbelt he was a good student at Greenbelt High School, Wolfe said.

In 1943 he went into the service and became an aerial gunner in a Martin B-26 bomber which was made in Baltimore. He was stationed in England and flew missions over Europe.

Clark received a basketball scholarship to the University of Maryland and went on to study law at George Washington University (GW). While at GW he drove a cab. Wolfe often rode with him to keep him company.

After he got his law degree, he followed in his father's footsteps. He started a framing business and then extended it into woodworking.

Although Lee left Greenbelt after the war Wolfe says he never forgot Greenbelt. He often said Greenbelt was the best thing that ever happened to him, Wolfe added. He loved Greenbelt to the day he left us, Wolfe said.

Bob Sommers, Julie Andrus, Donnie Wolfe and Lee, as adults, would meet for lunch from time to time. One time they started to name as many people as they could in the courts, starting at 2 Ridge to Northway and back to 1 Crescent. They found they could name about 50% of those who lived in each court - the original Greenbelt from 1937 - 1941.

He married his first wife Linda and moved out west. They had five children. He later returned to this area. At the time of his death he lived in Howard County.

His survivors include his wife Jane, sons Steven and Josh, daughter, Kristine, brother, Lewis and four grandchildren.

Friends gathered at the Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home on December 28.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to a charity of one's choice.



Lee Clark, second from right, is shown here as a young man playing checkers at the 1939 Greenbelt baseball banquet. From right are: Gary Andrus, Bob Sommers, Roy Braden (town manager), Clark and J.J. Andrus (currently living in Lakewood). The photo appears in "Greenbelt: History of a New Town, 1937-1987."

-photo courtesy of Bob Sommers and the Greenbelt Museum

### Glaucoma Awareness Month Is January

January is Glaucoma Awareness Month, and the prevention of Blindness Society of the Metropolitan Area along with the National Eye Institute is highlighting the importance of eye care and safeguarding vision. Glaucoma is a leading cause of irreversible vision loss and affects about three million Americans. Up to one half of this number may be unaware they have the disease. High-risk groups are everyone over the age of 60, African-Americans over the age of 40, and people who have a family history of glaucoma. Those at risk for glaucoma should get a dilated eye examination at least every two years.

For a free pamphlet on glaucoma, call the Prevention of Blindness Society at 202-234-1010.

### County Offers Y2K Information Hotline

The Prince George's County government is offering a county Y2K information hotline at 301-Y2K-1999 (301-925-1999). Residents are encouraged to call with questions or concerns pertaining to the county's Y2K readiness. The phone number will be effective through January 2000 and will be staffed 24 hours a day.

Also, pamphlets will be made available at grocery stores, libraries and county government buildings. A Web site has also been established at <http://www.co.pg.md.us/y2k/>.

### Magnet Brochures Now Available

Magnet Program brochures are now available at all Prince George's County public schools, libraries, municipal buildings and community centers. The brochures provide application information as well as general data regarding the various Magnet Programs available within the Prince George's County Public School System. Students not enrolled within the county should use the applications contained in the brochure. Students currently enrolled will receive a pre-printed lottery application in the mail. For additional information, contact the Magnet Office at 301-952-6044.

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

January 2, 2000 - 10:30 a.m. "Celebrating the Magic Child"

Co-Ministers Barbara Wells and Jacob B. ten Hove, assisted by Tish Hall, Kathleen Litz, and Shannon Thomas



### Baha'i Faith

"The winds of tests are powerless to hold back them that enjoy near access to Thee from setting their faces towards the horizon of Thy glory, and the tempests of trials must fail to draw away and hinder such as are wholly devoted to Thy will from approaching Thy court."

-Baha'i Sacred Writings

Greenbelt Baha'i Community P.O. Box 245

Greenbelt, MD 20770

301-345-2918 301-220-3160

Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the World Wide Web at <http://www.bahai.org/>

### Investigate Summer Enrichment Programs

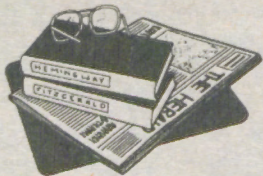
The Prince George's County school system is working to increase the number of students who participate in summer programs by distributing a booklet entitled "Summer Search 2000: Expanding Educational Horizons."

The booklet lists 307 summer enrichment opportunities for students at all grade levels, although its main focus is on high school students. The programs listed are designed to help students broaden learning capability, develop skills, and explore career interests.

Summer Search 2000 is available for review at all county middle and high schools, as well as public libraries. Parents who want to review the booklet and gather information about summer enrichment programs may contact

their child's guidance counselor, magnet program coordinator, or the chair of the school's mathematics department.

For more information call Career Development Specialist Marla Weisenberg, at 301-749-4519.



### Greenbelt Community Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads

Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:15 a.m.

Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

### UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church



40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

301-474-9410

SUNDAY

Childrens and Adults

Bible Study 9:30 am

Worship Service 11:00 am

Handicapped accessible

Rev. Guillermo Chavez, Pastor

All persons from all races and cultural backgrounds are welcome. Together we learn to serve Christ.

### MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday 8, 9:30, 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Saturday 5 p.m.

Daily Mass: As announced

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Rev. Thomas F. Crowley, Pastor • In Residence: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

### ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Md.



Catholic  
Community  
of Greenbelt  
MASS

Municipal Building Sundays  
10 A.M.



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Here

St. George's  
Episcopal Church

Episcopal/Anglican

Corner of Lanham-Severn Road (MD 564) and Glenn Dale Road, Just South of Greenbelt Rd (MD193), Glenn Dale

301-262-3285

<http://members.aol.com/stgeorgd/>

Sunday Services

9 am Folk Service (Interpreted for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing)

10 am Education for all ages

11 am Sung Service

### New beginnings, start with God's love!

Located at the corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads

Morning Worship Service (Sunday) 8:35 & 11:00 AM

Bible Study for all ages (Sunday) 9:45 AM

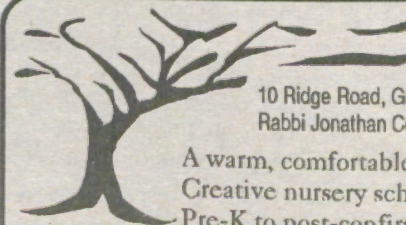
Evening Worship and Small Groups (Sunday) 6:00 PM

Prayer (Wednesday) 7:00 PM

For transportation or more information call 474-4212

or contact us on the Internet at [GrnBaptist@aol.com](mailto:GrnBaptist@aol.com)

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Services: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am

Family, 7:30 first Friday of the month



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5:00 P.M. Communion Service

Sunday Worship Services 8:30 and 11:15 A.M.

Education Hour — 10:00 A.M.



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[www.erols.com/myholycross](http://www.erols.com/myholycross)

Rev. Stephen H. Mentz, Pastor (301) 345-5111



## TEN TOP

(Continued from page 1)

Metro Station came to an end in November with a draft document prepared by the county's planning department team with citizen and stakeholder input receiving its almost final revision. In January 2000 the proposal for the area under study, which includes as its core the A. H. Smith property and the metro site, will go to the county council.

At the beginning of 1999 public attention intensified when a new group, Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek (CCRIC), formed to protect the stream and wetlands in the center of the core property. Developers then considered scaling back their plans from an upscale retail mall to a more modest "main street" model that would keep the woodland intact. Another issue, whether or not to construct a Beltway interchange to the metro site, was unresolved at year's end. The Greenbelt City Council opposed the concept but both county and state politicians authorized engineering environmental studies by the State Highway Administration for such an interchange.

### Historic District

Members of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. voted via mail ballot to pursue being named as a historic district. The city sought GHI's input first as the largest property owner. If Greenbelt becomes such a district, the program would follow design guidelines. In return, GHI would be eligible for a 10 percent property tax credit for approved rehabilitation work, and individuals building approved additions within the guidelines would qualify for a 10 percent property tax credit. The city's Advisory Planning Board will meet to discuss how best to review the process, requirements, and guidelines of the County's Historic District Designation.

### Nursing Center Closes

The year began with a shock for the 82 residents of the Greenbelt Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and their families, who learned of a federal order closing the facility by the end of January. Just a few months earlier, federal officials had appointed a temporary manager and monitor to resolve problems at the facility. While upholding the legality of the order to close, U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams wrote in his opinion that "the Court believes this is an inequitable result."

Although a spokesperson for the facility's operator vowed "We're not closing, we're temporarily ceasing operations," the facility remains closed, despite having paid a fine to settle the federal charges.

### Green Ridge House

Green Ridge House residents' demands for more parking remain unmet at year's end despite council approval early in the year of a plan to enlarge the parking lot by 14 spaces at the expense of 10 trees. City staff is still working to obtain necessary permits for the work. Proposals for a larger expansion, a new lot behind the building and angle parking on Ridge Road were abandoned in response to concerns raised by other Ridge Road residents.

### Greenbelt Theater

On May 19 the Old Greenbelt Theatre featured its first of several first-run movies in years, "A Midsummer Night's Dream." In the past the theater got movies weeks after they were shown elsewhere. The theater's booster, Friends of Greenbelt Theatre, grew to 200 supporters and raised \$6,300 for the theater by late April. Other efforts to increase attendance have included film festivals and more first-run features. Plans are also underway to recreate the original marquee.

### New Post Office

Plans for building a new Greenbelt post office were placed in limbo when Circuit Court Judge William B. Spellbring, Jr. ruled in September that a unilateral land covenant restricting property at the corner of Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive for office use only was enforceable. BJB Associates, present owners of Lot 2 of the Commerce Center, and the U.S. Postal Service hoped that the covenant would be voided by the court. No appeal of the decision was filed within the 30-day time limit. Serving Goddard Space Flight Center and areas east of the city as well as all property within the city, the Greenbelt facility needs more space. Retail sales and a box rental office would remain at Roosevelt Center.

### TheBus Comes to Greenbelt

Prince George's County supplemental bus service, TheBus, began the operation of new routes in Greenbelt. Route 11, serving Greenbelt West, was expanded. Route 15 began in August for a six-month trial period. The small buses serve the city from the Metro station. Service is provided to Springhill Lake, Capital Office Park, Beltway Plaza, the U.S. District Courthouse, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt East and the Goddard Space Flight Center. Other TheBus routes for Greenbelt are being considered.

### Greenbelt Swim Team

has a few openings on their roster for the

**Winter-Spring Session - January 9 to May 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Limited spaces available in Developmental Program swimmers 5-7 years old.**

**On-site registration & evaluation of new swimmers  
January 6<sup>th</sup> 4:55-5:55**

**Practice Schedule: Tues. & Thurs. 4:55 - 5:55 p.m. and Sunday 7 - 9 a.m.**

**For more information contact:**

**Erin Quicksell 301-935-5233 or Leslie Hilliard 301-474-7504  
Or visit our website at [www.greenbelt.com/swimteam](http://www.greenbelt.com/swimteam)**

## The Old Curmudgeon



"She's using Lancome on the Mother and Desitin on the Child!"  
-Thursday, May 27, 1999

### Retirement Planning For the New Year

Learn what to do to work towards a successful and happy retirement. The seminar will be held on Monday, January 10 at 3:30 p.m. at Washington Adventist Hospital, 7600 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park. Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-542-5096.

### Support Group Meets

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill will hold a free support group meeting for families and friends who deal with mental illness. It will be held Wednesday January 5, at 7 p.m. at the Bowie YMCA, 3512 Moylan Drive, Room 9. For information call 301-577-6026.

## Park Service Offers Photo Workshop

The National Park Service will hold a free landscape photography workshop Saturday, January 8, from 1:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., at Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens. The workshop presented by James Guzel of Afterglow Photography, will cover composition differences in black and white photography, exposures, and the type of film and filters to use. The workshop will begin at the visitor center in Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens located in the 1500 block of Anacostia Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C.

Participants should bring a 35-mm camera with manual exposure capability, ISO 100 - 400 film, a tripod, and at least one of the following filters: polarizing, red, medium, or dark yellow, light green. For more information and directions, call the park at 202-426-6905.

## Post-Mark Artwork Shown at Montpelier

Artists are invited to mail original art to Montpelier Cultural Art Center's "Post-Mark Millennium" art show. Art must weigh less than 50 pounds and bear a year 2000 postmark. The center will try to display pieces prior to the show's opening on January 15. The center will retain the pieces. Send artwork by January 13 to: Post-Mark Millennium, Montpelier Cultural Arts Center, 12826 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel, MD 20708.

For more information call 301-953-1993 or TTY 301-490-2329.

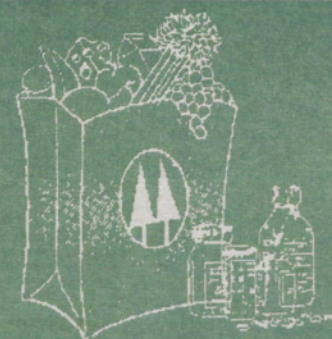
## City of Greenbelt Department of Public Works CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION POINTS

Recycle your Christmas trees between December 29, 1999 and February 7, 2000. Trees will be processed through the wood chipper and used as mulch around trees and flower beds. Trees will be picked up at the following locations:

- GHI 73 Ct. Ridge Road**
  - Playground Opposite Plateau Place & Ridge Road
  - Corner playground Research Road & Hillside Road
  - Corner Eastway & Crescent Road
  - Corner 21 Ct. Ridge Road
  - Across Green Ridge House Crescent Road & Ridge Road
  - Playground at junction Parkway Rd
  - Across from Community Church
  - Corner across 58 Ct. Crescent Rd.
- 7 Ct. Southway Road**
  - Playground at Little League
- 11 Ct. & 13 Ct. Ridge Road**
  - Park area between courts
- BOXWOOD**
  - Ivy and Lastner Lane
  - Playground
- LAKESIDE**
  - Greenhill Rd & Crescent Rd. (By Baptist Church)
- CHARLESTOWNE VILLAGE AND CHARLESTOWNE NORTH**
  - Adjacent to Attick Park
- UNIVERSITY SQUARE**
  - Front of swimming pool
- LAKESIDE NORTH**
  - Near swimming pool
- SPRINGHILL LAKE**
  - Community Building
- GREENBRIAR**
  - Between Buildings: 7705 & 7710 Hanover Parkway 7728 & 7730 Hanover Parkway 7826 & 7828 Hanover Parkway 8003 & 8009 Mandan Road
- GLEN OAKS**
  - Between Buildings: 7903 & 7905 Mandan Road 7509 & 7511 Mandan Road
- HUNTING RIDGE**
  - Between Buildings: 6936 & 6978 Hanover Parkway
- WINDSOR GREEN**
  - Court Entrances (picked up by Windsor Green Staff)
- GREENBROOK VILLAGE & ESTATES**
  - Southeast Corner of Ora Glen Drive and Mathew Drive
  - Southeast Corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbrook Drive
  - In front of barricade at Mandan Road and Mathew Street
- GREENWOOD VILLAGE**
  - Opposite 8175 Mandan Terrace
  - Opposite 7646 Mandan Road
  - Opposite 7648 Mandan Road
- GREENSPRING & GREENSPRING II**
  - Southwest Corner of Megan Lane and Craddock Road
  - Park area between 7926 & 8006 Greenbury Drive
  - Corner of Spring Manor Drive and Springshire Way
  - Open area between 6519 & 6515 Springcrest Drive
- BELLE POINT**
  - Corner of Vanity Fair Drive and Prince James Way
  - Open area between 7800 & 7801 Vanity Fair Drive
  - Open area beside 7962 Vanity Fair Dr.
- GREENBELT VILLAGE**
  - Open area between 6729 & 6715 Village Park Drive
  - Open area across from 6632 Lake Park Drive
  - Open area across from 6510 & 6512 Lake Park Drive



All Sale Prices Effective  
Monday, January 3rd  
thru  
Sunday, January 9th  
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Prestige Angus Beef Boneless Sirloin Steak	<b>\$2<sup>29</sup></b> lb.	
Prestige Angus Beef Boneless Chuck Roast	<b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> lb.	Fresh 85% Extra Lean Ground Round
Fresh Perdue Chicken Thighs -or- Drumsticks Jumbo Pack	<b>79¢</b> lb.	<b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Hillshire Farm Hot Links	<b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> 16 oz.	Meatline Solutions Mortimer's Steak -or- Chicken Pie
Louis Rich Turkey Franks	<b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> 16 oz.	<b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> 32 oz.
Kunzler Bacon End & Pieces	<b>89¢</b> lb.	Smithfield Sliced Bacon
		<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 16 oz.
		Louis Rich Turkey Franks
		<b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> 16 oz.

### DAIRY

Healthy Choice  
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Singles

**\$1<sup>69</sup>**  
12 oz.

Best Yet  
Soft  
Vegetable Spread

**\$1<sup>19</sup>**  
3 lb. bowl

Tropicana  
Premium  
Orange Juice

**\$2<sup>29</sup>**  
64 oz.

Best Yet  
Cottage  
Cheese

**\$1<sup>19</sup>**  
16 oz.

### DELI

Kunzler  
Smoked  
Ham

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**  
lb.

Continental  
Genoa-or-  
Hard Salami

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**  
lb.

Armour  
Beef  
Bologna

**\$1<sup>99</sup>**  
lb.

Saval  
Muenster  
Cheese

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**  
lb.

### GROCERY BARGAINS

Wishbone Salad Dressings Assorted	<b>79¢</b> 8 oz.		Best Yet Chunk Light Tuna	<b>49¢</b> 6 oz.
Lipton Tea Bags	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 100 pk.	Betty Crocker Hamburger Helpers Assorted	Hanover Kidney Beans- Chili Beans	<b>3/\$1<sup>00</sup></b> 14 oz.
General Mills Original Cheerios Cereal	<b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 15 oz.	<b>99¢</b> 6-9 oz.	Ocean Spray Grapefruit Juice	<b>\$2<sup>19</sup></b> 64 oz.
Charmin Double Size Rolls Bathroom Tissues	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 4 roll pk.	Best Yet Granulated Sugar	Folger's Value Size All Purpose Ground Coffee	<b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 5 lb. <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> 39 oz.
Best Yet Hot Cocoa Mix Regular-Marsh.	<b>99¢</b> 10 pk.	Dole Pineapple All Varieites	Puffs Family Size Facial Tissues	<b>89¢</b> 20 oz. <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 250 pk.
Furman's Whole Tomatoes Regular-Plain	<b>79¢</b> 28 oz.	Cheer Value Size Liquid Laundry Detergent	Best Yet Squeeze Ketchup	<b>\$5<sup>49</sup></b> 100 oz. <b>99¢</b> 28 oz.
		Hanover Pork & Beans		
Betty Crocker Potato Sidedishes Selected Varieties	<b>39¢</b> 14.5 oz. <b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> 32 oz.	Welch's Grape Jelly-or-Jam		
Taco Bell Taco Shells	<b>89¢</b> 4-7 oz. <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 4.5 oz.	Betty Crocker Ready To Spread Cake Frostings	General Mills Wheaties Cereal	<b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 12-16 oz. <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 18 oz.
Cascade Auto Dish Detergent	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 50 oz.	Taco Bell Salsa Asst.	Ship Ahoy Pink Salmon	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 16 oz. <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 14.7 oz.
Ocean Spray Mauna Lai Juice Mango-Guava	<b>\$2<sup>19</sup></b> 64 oz.	Lipton Lemon Iced Tea Mix Makes 20 Qts.	Golden Graham Treats	<b>\$2<sup>89</sup></b> 60 oz. <b>99¢</b> 6.2 oz.

### HEALTH & BEAUTY

General Mills Honey Nut Cheerios Cereal	<b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 15 1/4 oz.	Colgate Plus/Ultra Fit Toothbrushes	Betty Crocker Chicken-or Tuna Helper Asst. Varieties
		<b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 2 pk.	<b>99¢</b> 7-9 oz.
Zest Bath Bar Soap	<b>\$1<sup>59</sup></b> 3 pk.	Thera Flu Cold/Flu Medicine	Herr's Potato Chips
		<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 6 pk.	<b>99¢</b> 5.5 oz.
Scips Lunch Box Fruit Drinks Asst.	<b>69¢</b> 3 pk.		Herb Ox Boullion Cubes Beef-Chicken
			<b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 25 pk.

### HOUSEWARES

Kodak T-120 Video Cassette	<b>99¢</b> each
-------------------------------------	--------------------

### FARM FRESH PRODUCE

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Nature's Finest Crisp Garden Salad Mix	1 lb. bag	<b>99¢</b>
Green Giant Yellow Gold Potatoes	5 lb. bag	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>
Sweet Ripe Grape Tomatoes	1 pint	<b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b>
Nature's Finest California Carrots	2 lb. bag	<b>89¢</b>
Nature's Finest Cole Slaw Mix	1 lb. bag	<b>99¢</b>
California 113 Size Navel Oranges		<b>6/79¢</b>
Eastern Red Delicious Apples	3 lb. bag	<b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>
Sunburst Tangerines		<b>5/99¢</b>
California Kiwi Fruit		<b>4/99¢</b>
Fruit Club For Kids <b>FREE TANGERINE</b> See Store For Details		

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Cut or French  
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6-9 oz.

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**\$1<sup>39</sup>**  
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Eden Soy Regular Soy Beverage Drink Original-Vanilla	<b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 1 liter
Nature's Path Honey'd Corn Flakes Cereal	<b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> 10 oz.

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## Local Artists Help Create New College Park Mural

by Miriam Pinheiro

Thanks to the contributions of local artists, a blank wall at the Yates Auto Parts store located at Berwyn Road and Route 1 in College Park is no longer an eyesore. Instead, it has been transformed into a work of art—a mural, to be exact.

Michael McMullin, Dan Kennedy and Eleanor Roosevelt High School student, John Norden, all of Greenbelt contributed their artistic talents to the project.

It all started when Sandra Tyler of the Berwyn Arts Exchange attended a Berwyn District Civic Association (BDCA) meeting last spring. The neighborhood was concerned with the shabby appearance of the store's wall, which is located at a major entry way into the neighborhood. The BDCA asked if the Berwyn Arts Exchange would coordinate the project. It agreed and Tyler wrote a grant in May and talked to the city about economic help. The total budget for the project is \$13,750.

McMullin, a muralist, was contacted to do the project, however, he recommended Kennedy because he felt Kennedy's mural experience was better suited since McMullin mostly worked with modern art. McMullin ended up managing the project.

Kennedy created a design from the theme, "Heritage/Transportation."

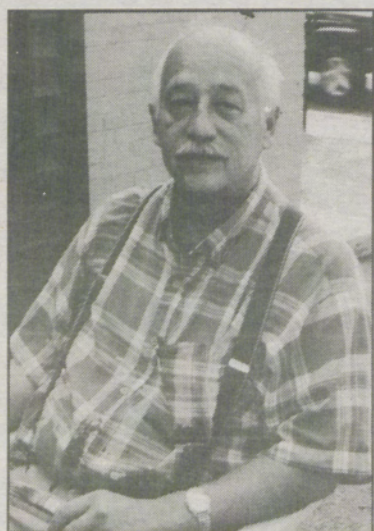
"The design harkens back to the 19th century when the Berwyn neighborhood was an important railroad stop between Baltimore and DC," said Kennedy.

The Berwyn neighborhood was developed in the 1880s because of its proximity to the

B&O railroad line—Berwyn is also adjacent to Route 1, the historic turnpike linking DC and Baltimore. The streetcar line built in 1900 bisected Berwyn. The streetcar line linked Berwyn to Hyattsville and a streetcar network in DC.

Two neighborhood artists, Bonnie O'Donoghue and Kathy Hausman, along with six Eleanor Roosevelt High School students donated their time to paint with Kennedy and McMullin.

According to Kennedy, the ERHS students wanted artistic experience with murals. The stu-



Dan Kennedy, creator of the mural.

dents helped mix colors on paper plates and created a few characters. McMullin said Norden was energetic, very dedicated and a big help.

"He helped solve a major perspective problem with the roof line of the train station," said McMullin. Norden said he enjoyed painting with his friends even though it took a lot of free



Students of Eleanor Roosevelt High School help paint a mural by Greenbelt artist, Dan Kennedy at Rt. 1 and Berwyn Road depicting the old Berwyn railroad station.

- photos by Thelma Demola

time. The 15-year-old student helped paint after school and on weekends. He is the son of Beth and Arnold Norden.

"We did the best we could considering the limitations," said Kennedy. He said the cinder block wall is a porous surface, which made it difficult to paint.

McMullin and Kennedy have art studios at the Greenbelt Community Center. Kennedy teaches private art lessons in landscaping and human figure painting. McMullin has given free art workshops in community painting for Greenbelt for the past five years.

"The involvement of the community is heartwarming," said Tyler, who is pleased with the outcome. She said there will be a presentation party sometime in January. Anyone interested in contributing to the project can contact Tyler at 301-345-3692.



ERHS students John Norden and Emily Condon-Douglas work on the mural.

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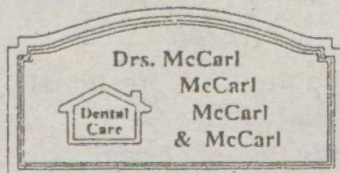
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## Three Years in New Guinea Adventure for Local Woman

by Barbara Young

"I saw an ad in the newspaper to teach music in Papua New Guinea," is the reason Ridge Road resident Betsy Barber gives for leaving the Washington area in 1993 to grab the brass ring of adventure, forsaking everything familiar and traveling alone to far-off New Guinea, a distance of about 8,500 miles. She signed a three-year contract to teach music to young people at the University of Papua New Guinea in its capital city, Port Moresby. It was during this time that she found a seriously ill puppy who came to be the centerpiece of her life. The dog is "King," the Australian "singing dog" she nursed back to health and brought with her when she returned to America and moved to Greenbelt in 1996.

Alone in New Guinea for three years except for her dog and a pidgin-English-speaking helper named Nop, the soft-spoken Barber, who has a Ph.D. in music, led a choir and taught private students, classes in piano, music history and ethnomusicology, as well



"King," the Singing Dog.

— photo supplied by Betsy Barber

as classes in ear-training and the history of popular music. She lived in a small concrete house given to her by the university and had the privilege of being invited by mountain tribespeople to stay in a traditional grass house. Gradually, warily, she learned the ways and strict rules of the tribal people she came to admire and, in some cases, love. "They're all artists," she says, remembering hearing beautiful singing around campfires at night, watching dancing and the creation of the large, intricate carvings and impeccably woven baskets that now surround her in her Greenbelt home.

### 900 Languages

There are 900 different lan-

guages, each with its own alphabet, spoken in Papua New Guinea by 900 different coastal and mountain tribes. But luckily for Dr. Barber, many of the tribal people speak pidgin English, as did Nop. Many of the natives who live out in the bush—descendants of the Chinese, Polynesians and Africans who migrated some 50,000 years ago to the beautiful, wild mountainous island—still live by fishing and farming in a place where tourism is minimal.

"Originally," says Barber, "Native people lived on yams and a spinach-like vegetable and whatever animals they could hunt. Foreigners who came from different countries introduced tropical fruit plants and brought cotton clothing, warm sweaters and coats, and cooking utensils, which was wonderful. Unfortunately, though, they also disrupted the traditional way of life and convinced the natives that much of their art work was not in line with 20th-century progress. Sadly, many artistic treasures were burned or left to rot because of this attitude."

Papua New Guinea is about the size of California, but there are more people in Sydney, Australia, than in this land. The first colonizers were the Portuguese, who claimed the country starting around 1600, "but they sailed by and didn't even get off their boats," Barber says. Two hundred years later, the French came and settled a few colonies, followed by the Germans. In the 19th century the English came, followed by the Australians. The country got its independence in 1978.

In Greenbelt, Betsy Barber lives in a peaceful house and enjoys the closeness of her neighbors. "I especially love the lake," says Barber. "King and I go around it nearly every day." Her conversation is full of interesting juxtapositions about life in New Guinea, as when she credits her stay with inspiring her to pick up a brush and start painting, and to continue her music.

Then there's this: "I loved the extended family part of tribalism—how everyone takes care of everyone else. One child would have a real father and real mother and then 25 different pops and moms, all of whom would be responsible for it. There might be another 50 aunts and uncles also," she says.

### Memories of Nop

The talk turns to Nop, Barber's mountain tribe helper who came to her one day and said, "I am



Betsy Barber amid New Guinea Dancers.

— photo supplied by Betsy Barber

going to be your maid and you are going to pay me \$50 every two weeks." Says Barber, "I wasn't going to argue with someone who was twirling a bush knife, so I asked people about her and they told me, take her. They were right. She stayed with me for three whole years. She was illiterate, a master fire builder, a fine weaver, and an excellent story-teller in pidgin English. She became my teacher."

"Nop took me everywhere and lived in the spare room in my house. Her tribe had decided she would have that room," Barber said.

Nop's people were ingenious, Barber found, remembering "they would buy a bus, get a license, and start driving. You could go anywhere for 40 cents, and every four or five minutes another bus would show up. You didn't have to wait long. At the bus stop, Nop would call out to one of her tribesmen who was a driver, and he would invite us on board where we would sit—Nop, King, and I—in a front row seat enjoying the drive.

### Nop and the Shower

"One night when the water was shut off (which happened on a regular basis), I complained because I wanted and needed a shower. It had just rained. Nop said, 'Come on, I'll show you how to take a real shower.' We dressed in our sarongs, took a towel and bar of soap and, because it had just rained, went

from tree to tree, shaking water from the branches. The stars were out, huge and brilliant, and the water splashed over us like ringing bells, and we laughed like school children. I will never forget the beauty of that night. Once Nop and I performed together at a concert, she dancing and playing a jew's-harp while I drummed and sang. We brought the house down."

### A Trip to Rabaul

Barber was invited to visit a tribe in Rabaul and spent seven unforgettable days living with the very hospitable and interesting people in East New Britain. While there, she was a witness to the famed Whip Dancers of Rabaul—young men who, after initiation, proved they felt no pain during a dance where they were fiercely whipped by their dancing companions. "They danced together," Barber recalls, "then one dancer stopped and thrust his hand in the air and the other whipped him with a long rope-like vine."

Barber was up close enough to see the skin welt on the boy's arm, yet the boy being whipped didn't bat an eye. "The dance continued and the boy was whipped perhaps 10-12 times. Then, after the whipping, both partners continued dancing a very fast dance with extremely complicated foot patterns. This continued for another 45 minutes."

Barber also was invited to sit around a huge bonfire (the flames

were perhaps 20 feet high) and watched the equally famous Rabaul Fire Dancers—again, young boys initiated to feel no pain as they danced through the fire barefooted, kicking the flaming logs until the fire was out. They wore huge, grotesque masks and danced to a group of male drummers, drumming a very fast and complicated driving rhythm.

Now retired, Dr. Barber moved to Greenbelt because of its dog-friendly people and the lake. She paints, writes, volunteers for Pets on Wheels, and is involved in several musical shows as well as the Greenbelt Writers Group. Severely traumatized by his early abandonment and mistreatment, King cannot be left alone, at least not yet, so Barber's lifestyle has changed from shopping sprees and restaurant-hopping to walks around Greenbelt Lake with her friend.

\*\*\*\*\*  
*The Staff  
 of the  
 News Review  
 Wishes our  
 readers  
 Happy Holidays  
 and a  
 Bright New Year*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

## Five Students Earn Community Credits

Five Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) students had the opportunity to experience the community spirit of Greenbelt. On Saturday, November 19 the Junior Civitan members from ERHS joined members of GIVES to rake leaves in five yards. Following state law, Prince George's County students must earn 75 Community service credits in order to graduate from high school.

Kelly Haisfield, Kate Sullivan, Brittany Terrell-Singleton, Mike

Wilson and Ning Ji were accompanied by and assisted by their teacher, Richard Carrington, and GIVES members Ruth Huggins, Jeanne Bozzi and John Taylor. Leaf bags and refreshments were donated by Greenbelt Homes (GHI). Transportation was provided by the Recreation Department and after the work was done, GHI's member service director Joan Kroh set out a spread of food and soft drinks for the hungry workers.



Junior Civitan members raking.

— photo by Leonie Penny

## Chicken Inspection System Automated

An automated chicken inspection system has been developed by a Beltsville Agricultural Research Center researcher, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced. The computerized system scans up to 140 birds a

minute, alerting a human inspector with a red light to indicate that a particular bird warrants closer inspection. The payoff for this research includes safer poultry products, with less salmonella and campylobacter.



# POLICE BLOTTER

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

## Drugs

5500 block of Cherrywood Lane, Dec. 22, 3:42 a.m., a 29-year-old female resident was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia after she was stopped as a suspicious person and found to have a pipe commonly used to smoke "crack" marijuana. She was released pending trial.

## Weapons

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Dec. 21, 12:16 p.m., a 15-year-old nonresident was charged on petition with possession of a deadly weapon on school property after threatening another student with a box cutter. The youth was released to a guardian pending action by the juvenile justice system.

## Hotline on Drugs

The Greenbelt Police Department needs the help of residents. Any citizen with information about possible drug activity in the city is encouraged to call the Greenbelt Narcotics Hot Line at 301-507-6522. Callers may remain anonymous.

## Burglary and Theft

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m., a 35-year-old male nonresident was charged on a warrant with burglary and theft after an office was entered by removing the door and money was taken.

9000 block of Breezewood Terrace, Dec. 17, approximately noon, two residences were broken into by kicking through the apartment ceiling. In one case, stereo equipment was taken; in the other, no property appeared to have been taken.

Beltway Plaza Mall, Dec. 19, 6:15 p.m., money was taken from a safe.

6400 block of Ivy Lane, Dec. 20, 3:45 p.m., a laptop computer was taken from an office suite.

6600 block of Lake Park Drive, Dec. 20, 6:14 p.m., jewelry was taken from a residence.

6100 block of Springhill Terrace, Dec. 21, 9:23 p.m., personal checks were taken from a residence.

## Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a gray four-door 1987 Chevrolet Nova with Maryland tags DNJ 159, Dec. 21, from the 6100 block of Breezewood Court, and a white four-door 1994 Honda Accord with Louisiana tags BBU 598, Dec. 21, from the 7500 block of Mandan Road.

Vandalisms to, thefts from, and attempted thefts of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 8300 block of Canning Terrace, Beltway Plaza Mall, Greenway Shopping Center, 9100 block of Edmonston Road, and 6000 block of Springhill Drive.

## The Lion in Winter Open Auditions

The award-winning Prince George's Little Theatre announces auditions for its March production of the classic comedy-drama "The Lion in Winter," by James Goldman. The Lion in Winter tells the tale of England's King Henry II as he faces the political machinations of his wife Eleanor, his children and the king of France.

Director Keith Brown is casting one woman, age 40 to 60; one woman in her 20s; one man, age 40 to 60; two men, age 20 to early 30s; and two men, age late teens to early 20s. All roles are open. Auditions will be held January 10 and 11, at 7:30 p.m. at Charles Carroll Middle School in New Carrollton. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Performances will be March 10, 12, 17, 19, 24 and 25, at the Prince George's Public Playhouse in Cheverly.

For more information call Keith Brown at 301-982-4405.

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## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Interpretive Programs

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces programs held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center, located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197 in Laurel, Maryland:

### Walking Tours

Weekends, January 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 — starting at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. — ages 8+. Discover how the Patuxent Research Refuge actively provides habitat for wildlife on these 45-minute walks.

### Basics of Birding

Two-part program. Wednesday, January 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; continuing Sunday, January 23, 8:15-10:30 a.m.; ages 16+. Discussion and walk focusing on bird identification, habitats, and equipment.

### Wildlife Art Class — Drawing

Saturday, January 22, for ages 6-8, 10-11 a.m.; ages 9-12, 11:30-1 p.m. Children can improve their art skills while learning about the wonders of wildlife.

### Nature Detectives Hike

Sunday, January 23, 10:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-2 p.m.; ages 8+. Become better observers of the natural world by searching for animal clues.

### Extinction

Monday, January 24, 4-5 p.m., ages 8+. Discover the causes of extinction and what animals are

likely to become endangered or extinct.

### Wildlife Art Class — Painting

Saturday, January 29, ages 6-8, 10-11 a.m. and ages 9-12, 11:30-1 p.m. Children can improve their art skills while learning about the wonders of wildlife.

### Marvelous Mammals

Sunday, January 30, 10:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-2 p.m., ages 5-7. Discover what all mammals have in common and some of the unique adaptations that some mammals have developed.

### Hello

Monday, January 31, 4-5 p.m., ages 8+. Discover the many ways and whys of animal communication.

All programs are free, but require advance registration. Registration is conducted Tuesday-Thursday from 1 to 4 p.m. by calling 301-497-5789. Please advise of any special needs so that they may be accommodated. Visit the website: [patuxent.fws.gov](http://patuxent.fws.gov) for program listings and upcoming events.

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Apply: City of Greenbelt Personnel, 25 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, Maryland or call 301-474-1872 for required application.

## OPENINGS AVAILABLE

Greenbelt Nursery School and Kindergarten (GNS & K) has openings in its Kindergarten and Nursery School programs. Fully accredited, GNS & K offers an active learning environment, small classes, and individualized attention. Founded in 1941, GNS & K emphasizes a child-centered approach that puts your child's interests and experiences at the heart of the learning process. GNS & K also offers extended care options from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM. Come join us and put our experience to work for you and your child. **To inquire, please contact us at 301/474-5570.** GNS & K is located in the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

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Recovering cancer patients can learn new grooming techniques to minimize treatment side effects. The class will be held on Monday, January 10 at 9 a.m. at Washington Adventist Hospital at 7600 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park. For more information call 1-800-542-5096. Registration is required.

## Good News on Taxes

City Manager Michael P. McLaughlin has told the Greenbelt city council that the city's tax differential application for fiscal year 2001 has been approved. Based on this news, McLaughlin estimates the tax differential will increase by .03 assessed valuation. That means the county tax rate paid by Greenbelt taxpayers will be lowered by .03.

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# The Late Lekh Batra Remembered in Post Story

by Dorothy Sucher

This week, as part of its end-of-the-millennium coverage, the Washington Post ran a series that marked the passing in 1999 of 10 people whose lives made a difference. Although they were not famous they were important to many others. One of the ten was the late Lekh Batra of Greenbelt, who died May 20, at the age of 69. He and his wife Suzanne had lived here for over 30 years and he had participated in many Greenbelt activities, especially those supporting the preservation of green space and the original design of the planned community. He was a proof reader for the News Review for many years.

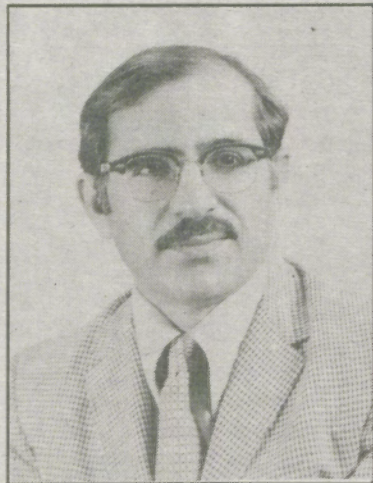
Born to a traditional Hindu family in a village in British India, Batra and his family were uprooted during the ethnic violence that accompanied the 1947 partitioning of India. The family had so little food that young Batra would go foraging in the hills for mushrooms to sell. These he found in abundance, and he found his life's work as well — mycology, the study of mushrooms.

**Worked at Beltsville**

In 1956 he came to the United States and attended Cornell University, where he earned a Ph.D. in botany. Later he joined the staff of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) and moved with his wife to Greenbelt. He achieved eminence in his field, and his professional work is known worldwide. He discovered 38 new species of fungi and seven fungal diseases, and wrote four books and more than 130 articles. Former Greenbelter Marie Tousignant, who was a colleague who was quoted in the Post article, helped him with a section on food and agriculture for a 60-volume encyclopedia on life support systems. She noted his fluency in several languages

and recalled that he had translated all the Latin scientific terms into Japanese.

Batra was also a man with a sense of humor, and Tousignant recalled the time he "showed up at the Greenbelt Labor Day parade accompanied by a huge sow and 13 piglets he'd borrowed from the Research Center. He was wearing a straw hat, jeans, and a plaid shirt."



Lekh Batra as a young man.

Another friend reminisced in the article about the time when Batra babysat for her three-month-old and put him to sleep by delivering a lecture on botany.

Suzanne Batra commented in the Post article that her late husband would have enjoyed his funeral reception, where mourners were served fungi of many kinds. The multi-cultural memorial service, led by the Rev. Daniel R. Hamlin, of Greenbelt Community Church, included Hindu and Muslim prayers, a Jewish kaddish, and a reading from Christian scripture.

Lekh Batra was a brilliant and multi-faceted man who will be missed by family, friends, and community. He came a long way from the small village of his birth geographically, professionally, and personally, and his time here on earth made a difference to many.

(This article is based in part on a Washington Post story by Peter Pae published December 26, 1999.)



The trees attack the Very Noisy Tourist in the planned New Year's eve production of "The Hippo Who Wanted to Be a Ballerina": From left Jacqueline Kittrell, Jeremiah Hammett, Rachel Quinton, Michaela Haber - photo by Randy Barth

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www.ci.greenbelt.md.us/newyear

Greenbelt's tallest holiday decoration was erected this year by Capitol Cadillac next to the Capital Beltway. Using its flag pole as supporting structure, the dealership erected a 70 foot tree of lights. The tree is powered by its own generator and contains 4,200 lights which use 42,609 watts of electricity.

— photo by Jim Ronan

GNY 2000 EVENT SCHEDULE								
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER			Greenbelt Historic Theatre	Greenbelt Arts Center				
Main Ballroom								
6:00PM	The Festivites Begin with a Fireworks display at Braden Field	Room A	Victorian Magician Eric Henning Show #1	Snack Bar Open all evening featuring soft drinks, candy & salty treats				
6:15PM		Juggler • Dave Schuman 7:30PM to 8PM		Children's Drama Show The Hippo who wanted to be a Ballerina 6:30PM to 8PM				
6:30PM		8:15PM to 8:45PM						
6:45PM				Snack Bar Open during Break				
7:00PM	In the Ballroom, the rhythm and heat of the Caribbean with Trinidad & Tobago Steel Band 7PM to 9PM	Room B	Victorian Magician Eric Henning Show #2	Children's Drama Show The Hippo who wanted to be a Ballerina 8:30PM to 10PM				
7:15PM		Bridges to Bliss Children's Music 7PM to 9PM						
7:30PM		Room C & D Giant Children's Craft Rooms 7PM to 8:30PM 9PM to 10:30PM		Snack Bar Open during Break				
7:45PM				Progressive Rock featuring the Hot, Edgy & Loud Band PEROXIDE 10:15PM to 11:45PM				
8:00PM	DANCE DANCE DANCE DANCE To the Sounds of D.C. Motors Band R&B Rock Celebrate with	Room E	Victorian Magician Eric Henning Show #3					
8:15PM		Kadee Puppets Show Every 15 Minutes 7PM to 9PM	In The Multipurpose Room Youth Bingo games all evening 7:30PM to 11:30PM					
8:30PM		Room F FREE Coat Check All Evening						
8:45PM		Food Vendors located throughout the event						
9:00PM	COUNTDOWN 2000 Roosevelt Mall • Ballroom • Youth Center		Dance Studio/Cajun Dance with Blackberry Lesson 7:30 to 8:30 Dance 8:30 to 10:30					
9:15PM			Room G Singer John Hill Entertains you over good food 7:30 to 11:30					
9:30PM								
9:45PM								
10:00PM	D.C. Motors Band 9PM to 1AM							
10:15PM								
10:30PM								
10:45PM								
11:00PM	FUTURES & FORTUNES Gift Shop & Artist Studio...Guests of all ages are invited to visit the second floor Artist's Studios and take part in "Forward Thinking" collaborative art activities. Meet the artists in person and purchase custom made treasures to grace your home or as a gift for that special friend. Studio hours are from 6 to 8PM on the second floor of the Greenbelt Community Center.		For More Information Visit Our Web Site www.ci.greenbelt.md.us/newyear					
11:15PM								
11:30PM								
11:45PM								
12:00AM	The City of Greenbelt reserves the right to change the locations and times of events to suit operational needs and to cancel the show in the event of a weather emergency.							
12:15AM								
12:30AM								
12:45AM								
1:00AM								

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**For More Information Visit Our Web Site**

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